

CHAMPIONS READY FOR FIRST PRACTICE

McCarthy Reaches Camp and Will Put Yankee Battery- men to Work Today

THREE REGULARS MISSING

Dickey, Ruffing and Chandler to Be Considered Holdouts if They Do Not Report

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—With Manager Joe McCarthy in charge, the Yankees will open their Spring training season at Huggins Field tomorrow. For the first week the work-outs will be confined to the pitchers and catchers. The other members of the squad are slated to hold their first practice session on Monday, March 4, and are due to report here next Sunday.

McCarthy arrived from New York today, accompanied by only two players. These were Marius Russo and George Washburn, both pitchers.

The former, who hails from Ozone Park, L. I., was a southpaw freshman on last year's staff. He hung up a record of eight victories and only three defeats while the New Yorkers were breezing to their fourth consecutive American League championship.

Washburn, a right-hander, whose home is in Maine, has been brought up for a trial from the Yanks' Newark farm club. During the 1939 campaign he won thirteen games for the Bears and was charged with fourteen setbacks.

Krichell Among Arrivals

In addition to McCarthy and the two young pitchers the party which reached here on the Orange Blossom Special included Scout Paul Krichell, Mark Roth, road secretary; his assistant, Rex Weyant, and a number of newspaper men.

A clubhouse meeting at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning will inaugurate the training campaign and will also mark the start of McCarthy's tenth consecutive season as leader of the world's champions.

Only three of the regular batterymen were unaccounted for on the eve of the first workout. These were Red Ruffing, who won twenty-one games last year while losing only seven; Spud Chandler, the young Georgia right-hander, who got off to a late start last year because of a broken leg, and Bill Dickey, the spark-plug of the team and the game's outstanding catcher. These three have not signed contracts and they will definitely be considered holdouts if they are not on hand tomorrow.

Four other regulars are among those who have not agreed to terms, these being Outfielders Joe DiMaggio and Tommy Henrich, Red Rolfe, veteran third baseman, and Joe Gordon, brilliant young second baseman.

Two more players round out the list of nine who are still unsigned among the thirty-three on the Yankee roster. These are both outfielders—Mike Chartak, who was with Newark last season, and Bill Matheson, a member of the Kansas City club in 1939.

Fletcher Greeted McCarthy

The veteran coach Arthur Fletcher, Scout Johnny Nee and Trainer Doc Painter were among those who greeted Manager McCarthy and his party at the railroad station.

"The worst Winter in forty years," is the way the natives are referring to the recent cold spell in this part of the country. Today's weather was perfect, however, and the players are anxious to get down to the serious business of training.

Lefty Gomez, Johnny Murphy, Atley Donald, Monte Pearson, Gordon, Arndt Jorgens, George Selkirk and Jake Powell are all on hand, having spent the Winter in this vicinity. Coach Johnny Schulte arrived from his home in St. Louis several weeks ago.

Despite the recent cold wave several of the players, including Gomez and Murphy, had to be almost forcibly restrained from working out during the past week. The club was enforcing a new rule, forbidding players to practice until Manager McCarthy arrived.

The Yanks have less than two weeks in which to prepare for their first exhibition game of the year. This is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, with the Cardinals, who are also training here.

Ruffing Admits Holdout

LONG BEACH, Calif., Feb. 25 (AP)—Pitcher Charles (Red) Ruffing of the Yankees admitted at his home tonight he was holding out for more money, but declined to say how much.

"It isn't any \$5,000," he said, when questioned about reports he was asking a pay rise of that amount. "I'm just sitting tight and saying nothing. If there's any popping off, they can do it back there."

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